



Approved as amended May 14, 2012

**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
SUMMARIZED MEETING MINUTES**

**5:00 p.m. Monday, April 9, 2012
Human Resources Pinnacle Training Room
7575 E. Main Street
Scottsdale, Arizona**

Present: Jeff Jameson, Chair
Susan Galpin, Commissioner (departed at 6:58 p.m.)
James Campbell, Commissioner
Bob Fox, Commissioner
Edward Lopez, Commissioner
Joel Martin, Commissioner

Absent: Linda Simmons, Vice Chair

Staff: Sandra Esquivias, Office of Diversity, Administrative Secretary
Terry Welker, Human Resources Executive Director
John Cocca, Assistant Police Chief
Kathy Coster, Scottsdale Library
Rachel Smetana, Downtown Business Specialist

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jameson called the meeting to order at approximately 5:04 p.m.

1 REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner, Jeff Jameson, Chairperson presented the draft minutes of the February 13, February 27, and March 12 meetings for the Commission's review and approval.

Approved 6-0: Commissioner Martin made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2012 meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Martin.



Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation by contacting Office of Diversity and Dialogue at 480-312-7772. Requests should be made 24 hours in advance, or as early as possible, to allow time to arrange the accommodation. For TTY users, the Arizona Relay Service (1-800-367-8939) may contact Office of Diversity & Dialogue at 480-312-7772.

Approved 6-0: Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2012 meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Martin.

Approved 6-0: Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2012 meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Lopez.

2 UPDATE ON REGIONAL HUMAN RELATIONS MEETING, FEBRUARY 14, 2012 - HOSTED BY THE CITY OF TEMPE

Commissioner Martin reported that in addition to discussing the Arizona Accord, the Regional Human Relations meeting spent time addressing the impact of diversity on youth, and strategizing on how to get youth engaged in the conversation.

3 REVIEW AND DISCUSS "STAND YOUR GROUND" AND PROPOSED HEALTHCARE LEGISLATION

Chair Jameson clarified that the agenda, as originally posted, suggested that the HRC would be discussing the Affordable Healthcare Act, but his intent was actually to discuss legislation recently proposed by the Arizona House.

Approved 6-0: Commissioner Jameson made a motion to agendaize a discussion about proposed legislation of the Arizona Legislature related to women's healthcare, for the May meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Galpin.

Assistant Police Chief Cocca reviewed the Arizona Revised Statute's use of force laws that enforcement agencies use to determine justifications. Scottsdale goes by the state law and has no specific ordinances regarding this matter. The Police Department advises citizens not to take any enforcement action themselves, unless they feel it is absolutely necessary.

The Commission discussed the relationship between the SPD and community watch groups. Neighborhood Watch is not administered by the Scottsdale Police Department. In fact, it is managed by Neighborhood Services. Assistant Chief Cocca reported that several Department instructors received training at the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, and used that experience to create a training program on cultural diversity issues related to law enforcement. Commissioner Martin suggested an agenda item to audit the diversity training provided by the SPD.

Approved 6-0: Commissioner Lopez made a motion to amend the agenda to allow for an open call to the public pertaining specifically to this topic. Seconded by Commissioner Martin.

Chair Jameson welcomed public comments.

Allen Corwin noted that "Arizona has a uniform gun law that prevents communities from passing their own laws related to firearms. When it comes to self-defense justification, the law



essentially tells people that if innocent life does not immediately depend on it, not to shoot; and if it does, not to miss. It is always better to avoid a gunfight than to win one. The person at the scene is always the first responder and they have the legal right to protect themselves against criminal assault. Without a stand your ground law, the only alternative is to run and hide. Arizona has a reasonable person standard that says a jury must ultimately decide whether a person's actions were reasonable or not."

Assistant Chief Cocca said that individuals must decide for themselves what to do, based on the facts and circumstances that present themselves. The SPD cannot decide for them. The message to the community is to be the best witness possible in crime situations.

4 B&C SUNSET REVIEW PROCESS AND SCHEDULE

Chair Jameson said a review of the Human Relations Commission has been scheduled in April of 2013, as part of City Council's Boards and Commissions Sunset Review Process. The review considers the validity of board and commission activities, and determines whether they should be continued or not. Commissioner Galpin requested the opportunity for the Commission to provide input on the audit submission.

5 BYLAWS REVISIONS

Chair Jameson reviewed the revisions to the HRC's bylaws that were made to bring the Commission into compliance with the City Charter.

Approved 6-0: Commissioner Campbell made a motion to adopt the revised bylaws as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Galpin.

6 DISCUSS THE ARIZONA ACCORD AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CITY COUNCIL

Chair Jameson said he spoke with Councilwoman Milhaven about introducing a City Council agenda item to discuss the HRC's work and to deliver an executive summary of the Arizona Accord.

7 PLANNING 2012/2013 CULTURAL AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

The Commission discussed how to meet its charter of disseminating and educating the citizenry about diversity issues in the community. Attendance at recent outreach events has been disappointing, considering the quality of the effort put into each event. The HRC evaluated their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and explored the challenges involved in spreading the message about their activities.



Terry Welker spoke about the recent changes the City has made to the Office of Diversity and Dialogue. The City is working to separate the program from Workforce Development, in order to strengthen its impact on the community.

Commissioner Campbell proposed a special meeting to align the Commission's efforts with the objectives of the Office of Diversity and Dialogue. The Commission agreed to extend an upcoming regular meeting, at Dr. Velicia McMillan Humes' convenience, to discuss this matter in more depth.

8 CHAIRMAN REPORTS

None.

9 COMMISSIONER ITEMS

None.

10 OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC (A.R.S. § 38-431.02)

None

11 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:27 p.m.

